

Message Text

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70

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 EA-11 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 TRSE-00

OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 ABF-01 AEC-11 SCI-06 NASA-04

DRC-01 /199 W

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R 071955Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6693

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 3457

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UN, FR

SUBJECT: REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS (ROB) EXPERTS GROUP

REF: STATE 021277

1. IN COURSE OF RECENT DISCUSSION WITH MISTRAL (QUAI
DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL OFFICER) WE DREW ON INFOR-
MATION IN PARA 2 OF REFTTEL IN URGING FRENCH PARTICIPATION
IN ROB EXPERTS GROUP. IN RESPONSE, MISTRAL MADE FOLLOW-
ING POINTS: (A) FROM PRACTICAL POINT OF VIEW, FRENCH
OPPOSE IDEA OF THEIR PARTICIPATION IN EXPERTS GROUP
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BECAUSE FRANCE HAS NO INTENTION OF REDUCING ITS DEFENSE

BUDGET AND NO INTENTION OF ACCEPTING PRINCIPLE OF ALLOCATION TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE OF SAVINGS MADE IN DEFENSE BUDGET OF FRANCE. (B) FROM POLITICAL POINT OF VIEW, FRANCE DOES NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN EXERCISE SUCH AS ROB EXPERTS GROUP WHICH HAS (IN FRENCH EYES) NO HOPE OF SUCCESS AND CONTAINS SEEDS OF POSSIBLY "BITTER AND CERTAINLY UNPRODUCTIVE" CONFRONTATION BETWEEN EAST AND WEST. (C) FURTHERMORE, ADDRESSING POINT IN REFTEL, PARA 2B LAST SENTENCE, MISTRAL OPINED THAT IN FACT EXPERTS DO NOT HAVE MUCH LEEWAY IN DECIDING THE STUDY'S TERMS OF REFERENCE, GIVEN WHAT FRENCH BELIEVE ARE RATHER STRINGENT GROUND RULES OF UN RESOLUTION ON SUBJECT. THEREFORE, ABILITY OF WESTERN MEMBERS TO STRUCTURE WORK IN FAVORABLE DIRECTION MAY BE LIMITED. (D) FRANCE HAS NO INTENTION OF URGING OTHERS TO FOLLOW ITS EXAMPLE OF ABSTAINING FROM PARTICIPATING IN EXPERTS GROUP. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, MISTRAL SAID THAT HE DOUBTED UK WOULD PARTICIPATE IN EXPERTS GROUP.

2. COMMENT: BASED ON MISTRAL'S STATEMENT AND PREVIOUS REPORTING BY USUN OF FRENCH ATTITUDE, WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT FRENCH ARE PREPARED TO CHANGE THEIR NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD ROB EXPERTS GROUP. GDS
IRWIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BUDGET, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS03457
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740249/aaaabtoz.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 021277
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAR 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <31 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS (ROB) EXPERTS GROUP
TAGS: PARM, FR, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005